GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4547
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002
TAX ON MEDICAL EQUIPMENTS
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the recent taxation policy has resulted into gallopping prices of the essential sophisticated sight saving equipments and surgical instruments to unaffordable levels;

(b) whether the Government have proposal to get the taxation policy reviewed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA)

(a) Government of India has decided to impose 5% Custom Duty on Sight Saving Equipment which will marginally increase the price of such equipment. This will not increase price up to unaffordable level.

(b) No such proposal has been mooted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(c) Question does not arise.